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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT (Month of August, 1985)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during August decreased by seven crews and vessels over July. The August total was 390, compared with 397 in July.

The August total (390) represents a decrease of 2% from last month, a 25% decrease from August, 1984, a 19% decrease from August, 1983, a 31% decrease from August, 1982, a 47% decrease from August, 1981, a 31% decrease from August, 1980, and a decrease of 8% from the same month in 1979.

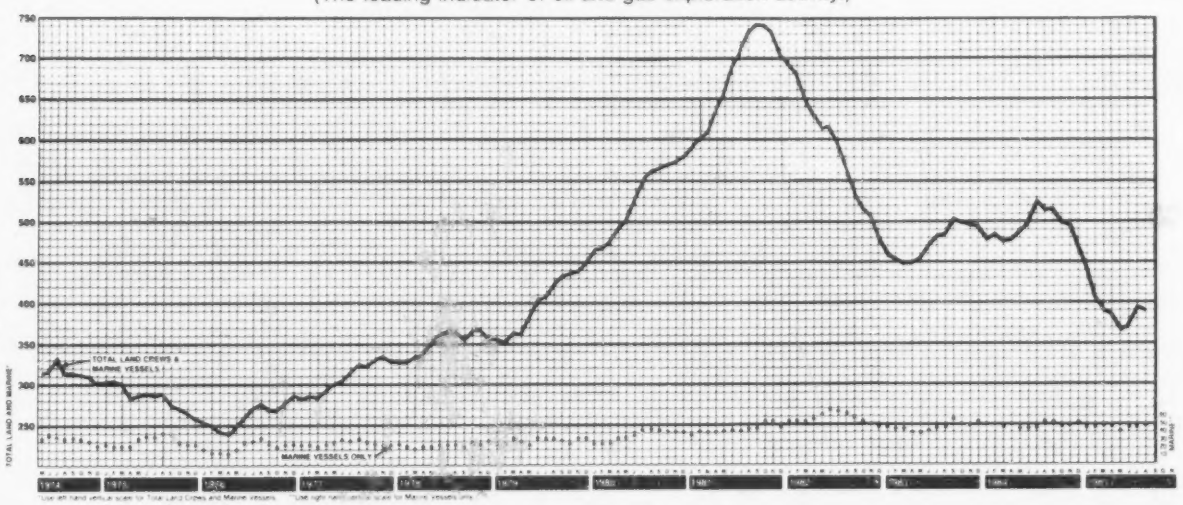
During August, seven contractors were operating thirteen of the 308 land crews and seven of the forty-two vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Aug. 84	Aug. 83	Aug. 82	Aug. 81	Aug 80	Aug 79
	390	397	523	484	562	735	565	424

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Aug. 1984	Aug. 1983	Aug. 1982	Aug. 1981	Aug. 1980	Aug. 1979	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Aug. 1984	Aug. 1983	Aug. 1982	Aug. 1981	Aug. 1980	Aug. 1979
69 Contr's:	308	317	433	396	458	646	482	354	42	41	45	43	54	39	36	25
9 Oil Co's:	33	33	37	39	42	43	39	39	6	6	7	6	7	6	7	5
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1
Totals	341	350	470	435	500	689	521	393	49	47	53	49	62	46	44	31

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



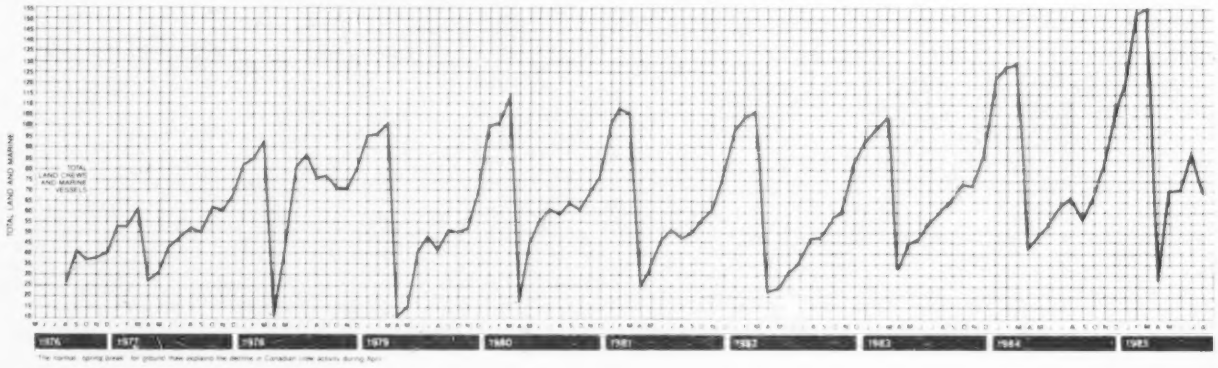
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

AUGUST, 1985 (July figures in parentheses)

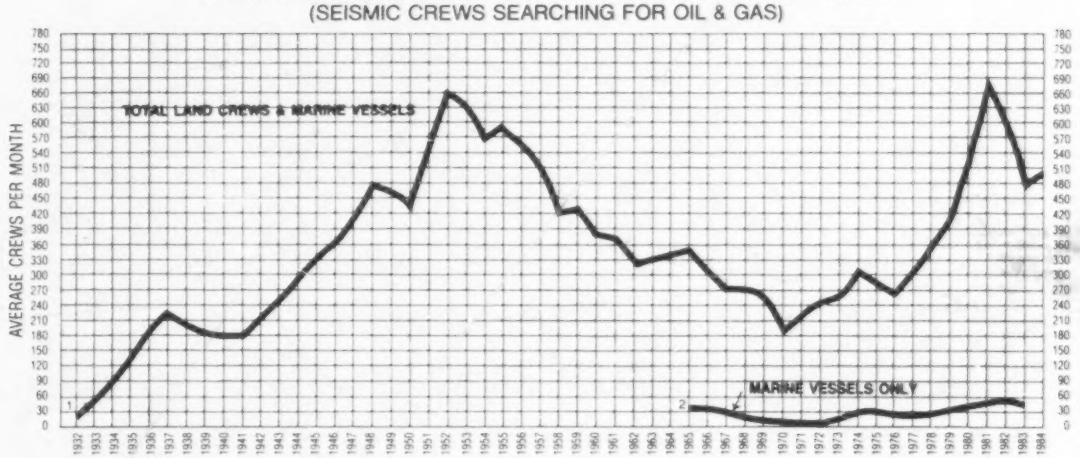
	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
30 Contractors:	58 (77)	8 (8)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	61 (80)	8 (8)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965.